

Paraphrasing — The Ohlone People

Paraphrasing is restating published writing in your own words. It can be shorter or longer than the original writing. To paraphrase:

1. Identify the main idea
2. Change the words and word order
3. Change the structure of the paragraph
4. Write about it in a different way

Be careful not to plagiarize. Plagiarism is stealing someone else's writing and passing it off as yours without giving credit to them.

Paraphrase this passage on the Ohlone people.

Use the back of this page if you need more room.

The Ohlone people are Native Americans that inhabited the central coast of California. In the late 18th century, when Spanish explorers and missionaries arrived, the Ohlone lived along the coast from the San Francisco Bay through Monterey Bay to the Salinas Valley. They spoke different languages, and lived in more than 50 distinct groups. They did not view themselves as a single group. They survived by hunting, fishing, and gathering. California was abundant with wildlife and natural resources, and many animals, such as the coyote, the hummingbird and the eagle, played important roles in Ohlone folklore and mythology. Their religion was shamanism, but the Spanish tried to convert them to Christianity. The Spanish missionaries had a ravaging effect on the Ohlone people. The Ohlone population declined sharply during this time. Many died from diseases, others were killed. Today there are less than 1,400 registered Ohlone left in the United States.
